

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/665,796

Examiner

Alexis Wachtel

Applicant(s)

CHANDLER, WILLIAM H.

Art Unit

1764

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amd filed 9-30-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 109-148.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9-30-05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Detailed Action

Examiner's Amendment

Insert the following immediately after the title: The instant application is a division of US 09/826,606 now US 6692708.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: with respect to independent claims 109, the closest art, US 6455316 to Turner teach the claimed method except for the step of providing interchangeable manifolds as claimed. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. While the manifold disclosed by Turner may be capable of being swapped out by taking the parallel reactor apart, one of ordinary skill would see that doing so does not constitute a step intended to be taken in the course of operating the parallel reactor in accordance with claim 109. Claims 110-137 depend on claim 109.

With respect to claim 138 which was previously indicated as allowable, the closest art to Turner teaches the concept of removing reaction mixture from the respective reaction chambers, however, the art does not teach that the step of removing a portion of the reaction mixture from the respective reaction chambers further includes the step of providing first flow control valves having an inlet port supporting a first tubular member, the first tubular member having one end in fluid communication with the respective reaction chambers and a second end supported by the first flow control valve such that the second end can be exposed to ambient conditions, whereby the back pressure in the respective reaction chambers pushes a portion of the reaction mixture

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into the first tubular member when the second end of the tubular member is exposed to ambient conditions. Additionally, Turner does not teach the step of providing interchangeable manifolds as claimed. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. While the manifold disclosed by Turner may be capable of being swapped out by taking the parallel reactor apart, one of ordinary skill would see that doing so does not constitute a step intended to be taken in the course of operating the parallel reactor in accordance with claim 138. Claims 139-141 depend on claim 138.

With respect to claim 145, the closest art, US 6455316 to Turner teaches the claimed method except for the step of removing said first manifold from said reactor block; replacing said first manifold with a second manifold having a configuration different from said first manifold to form a second parallel reactor system; and conducting a second series of parallel reactions in said second parallel reactor system. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. Claims 146-148 depend on claim 145. With respect to independent claims 109, the closest art, US 6455316 to Turner teach the claimed method except for the step of providing interchangeable manifolds as claimed. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. While the manifold disclosed by Turner may be capable of

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being swapped out by taking the parallel reactor apart, one of ordinary skill would see that doing so does not constitute a step intended to be taken in the course of operating the parallel reactor in accordance with claim 109. Claims 110-137 depend on claim 109.

With respect to claim 138 which was previously indicated as allowable, the closest art to Turner teaches the concept of removing reaction mixture from the respective reaction chambers, however, the art does not teach that the step of removing a portion of the reaction mixture from the respective reaction chambers further includes the step of providing first flow control valves having an inlet port supporting a first tubular member, the first tubular member having one end in fluid communication with the respective reaction chambers and a second end supported by the first flow control valve such that the second end can be exposed to ambient conditions, whereby the back pressure in the respective reaction chambers pushes a portion of the reaction mixture into the first tubular member when the second end of the tubular member is exposed to ambient conditions. Additionally, Turner does not teach the step of providing interchangeable manifolds as claimed. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, nowhere in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. While the manifold disclosed by Turner may be capable of being swapped out by taking the parallel reactor apart, one of ordinary skill would see that doing so does not constitute a step intended to be taken in the course of operating the parallel reactor in accordance with claim 138. Claims 139-141 depend on claim 138.

With respect to claim 145, the closest art, US 6455316 to Turner teaches the

claimed method except for the step of removing said first manifold from said reactor block; replacing said first manifold with a second manifold having a configuration different from said first manifold to form a second parallel reactor system; and conducting a second series of parallel reactions in said second parallel reactor system. While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course of operating a parallel reactor. Claims 146-148 depend on claim 145..

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex Wachtel whose telephone number is 571-272-1455. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:30am to 6:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Glenn Caldarola, can be reached at (571)-272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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different from said first manifold to form a second parallel reactor system; and
conducting a second series of parallel reactions in said second parallel reactor system.

While Turner does teach the use of a manifold, no where in the four corners of the
Turner reference is interchangeability of the claimed manifolds discussed in the course
of operating a parallel reactor. Claims 146-148 depend on claim 145..

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applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status
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have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business
Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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Technology Center 1700